

**LOUISIANA
FIRST QUARTER 2002
COVERED EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES**

The average quarterly employment for Louisiana during first quarter 2002 was 1,839,132, a decrease of 1.6% from the fourth quarter 2001, and a decrease of 1.0% from the same period in 2001. Employment increased in six of the 20 NAICS sectors.

Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the state with 248,251 employees, or 13.5% of total employment. RLMA 1 was the leading region with 596,134 employees, or 32.4% of total employment.

Average quarterly employment data for first quarter 2002, fourth quarter 2001, first quarter 2001, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Average Quarterly Employment" on page 3. Louisiana's average employment distribution by RLMA and NAICS sector can be found in the charts on page 4.

Total wages increased 2.4% from the first quarter 2001, and decreased by 5.6% from fourth quarter 2001, for an average weekly wage of \$572.20.

Average weekly wage data for each RLMA is listed in the following table.

Parish	Avg. Wkly. Wage
RLMA 1	\$ 619.40
RLMA 2	580.36
RLMA 3	589.19
RLMA 4	568.29
RLMA 5	566.75
RLMA 6	467.32
RLMA 7	521.75
RLMA 8	476.91

The number of reporting units for first quarter 2002 was 114,423, a decrease of 97 units, or 0.1%, from fourth quarter 2001, and a decrease of 1,300 units, or 1.1%, from the same period in 2001. The number of reporting units for first quarter 2002, fourth quarter 2001, first quarter 2001, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Louisiana Average Employment and Units – First Quarter 2002" on page 3.

Due to the conversion to NAICS, this data should not be compared to data in publications prior to first quarter 2001.

LOUISIANA MONTHLY EMPLOYMENT

